



CROSS-COUNTRY TOUR REGULATIONS

*(Approved by Council, 22 March 2023,
effective from 31 March 2023)*

1. General Principles

- 1.1. The World Athletics Cross-Country Tour provides clearly understood differing levels of competition based on athlete budget & prize money and quality of organisation for worldwide international cross-country meetings, subject to fulfilment of the minimum requirements set out in these Regulations.
- 1.2. Regulations governing the World Athletics Cross-Country Tour shall be issued to the World Athletics Cross-Country Tour Meeting Organisers ('Organisers') and may be amended every year by World Athletics in agreement with the Area Associations.
- 1.3. Organisers agree to respect all Rules and Regulations and decisions taken by World Athletics.
- 1.4. The World Athletics Cross-Country Tour calendar can be found on the World Athletics website.
- 1.5. No Application shall be considered if it does not meet the minimum requirements set out in these Regulations.

PART I - GOLD LEVEL TOUR STATUS REQUIREMENTS

1. Applications

1.1. Formal Applications for a World Athletics Cross-Country Tour – Gold Level shall be submitted as follows:

1.1.1. On the Application Form;

1.1.2. Signed by both the Organiser and the host National Federation and submitted to World Athletics; and

1.1.3. By the deadline set by World Athletics.

2. Evaluation and Reporting

2.1. All World Athletics Cross-Country Tour – Gold Level Meetings **will be selected by World Athletics only**, and will undergo an annual evaluation, based on all aspects of their organisation including:

- Level of the Athletes competing.
- Athlete Budget, Prize Money and **overall event budget**.
- Services provided to the Athletes.
- Value added and prestige to the world cross country ecosystem and brand.
- Number of international participants.
- **Quality of the course**
- **Broadcast/live streaming coverage.**
- **Geographical spread of the Tour on each continental area.**
- Tradition.
- Respect of these Regulations.
- Respect of all other Rules and Regulations and Graphic Branding Guidelines.
- Respect of the financial commitments towards the Athletes.
- Conduct of anti-doping measures.
- Technical conduct of the competition.

2.2. The status will be reviewed according to procedures agreed by World Athletics and the number limited to ensure exclusivity.

2.3. A Technical Delegate (TD), will be appointed by World Athletics for each Gold level World Athletics Cross-Country Tour Meeting. Provided they are suitably qualified, the TD can be from any Country or Territory including the Country or Territory where the Meeting is located.

2.3.1. The role of the TD is to ensure the Meeting is run in accordance with World Athletics Rules and Regulations including these Regulations and will be ready to give assistance to the Organiser and the Organiser shall guarantee full cooperation to the TD.

2.3.2. Costs of travel and accommodation for the TD to be borne by the Meeting. The TD will be appointed with low cost of travel in mind.

2.3.3. Following each Meeting the designated TD will be required to complete a detailed Report Form concerning the staging of the Meeting to be returned to World Athletics no later than 10 days after the Meeting.

2.3.4.A copy of the TD's Report will also be given to the Organiser and the Area Association where the Meeting is held.

3. Minimum Requirements for Application

3.1. Minimum standards of organisation

The observation and respect of the applicable Rules and Regulations shall always be one of the minimum requirements. Should a Meeting not satisfy the minimum requirements, World Athletics retains the right not to deliver a Permit, to downgrade a Meeting and / or take further action under its Rules and Regulations.

3.2. Races

Organisers shall be required to stage at least a Senior Men's and a Senior Women's race.

U20, Schools & Masters races are optional but the total number of participants should exceed 1000

3.3. Athletes Budget at the World Athletics Cross-Country Tour Gold Meetings

- a. A minimum total athlete budget for travel, accommodation and prize money should be **\$15,000 USD**.
- b. Prize Money shall be paid within 60 days of receipt of the doping control clearance from the Athletics Integrity Unit and of the complete invoices, which must comply with the communicated legal, fiscal and procedural requirements of the Organiser.
- c. Payment of travel reimbursements will be made at the World Athletics Cross-Country Tour Meeting or within 2 weeks after the Meeting, provided the necessary paperwork has been given to the Organiser.
- d. Upon request from World Athletics, an Organiser has the obligation to provide within two weeks, proof of the payments made to the Athletes.
- e. Negotiations for Athletes to compete must be conducted only with authorised Athletes Representatives or with the Athlete directly.

3.4. Medical and Anti-Doping

- a. The Organiser shall provide:
 - Adequate Medical and Emergency Services on site, including emergency assistance and ambulance service, and minor stitching.
 - Physiotherapy facilities at the venue and at the Athletes' hotel.
- b. The Organiser shall organise and cover the costs of doping controls and analyses as follows:
 - A minimum of five (5) doping control tests must be conducted, of which three (3) must be EPO tests.
 - Samples shall be collected in strict accordance with World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules (and appendices) using qualified doping control personnel.
 - Samples shall be shipped to and analysed by a WADA-accredited laboratory.

- Additional tests may also be conducted where:
 - World Athletics decides to conduct pre-competition blood testing at its own expense. The Organiser shall assist the Athletics Integrity Unit should pre-competition blood tests take place at the Organiser's event (chaperones, hotel room for sample collection etc.); and/or
 - an Athlete breaks or equals a World Record (if more than one Athlete breaks or equals the record in the same event, then all Athletes concerned must be tested); and/or
 - any Athlete who has broken an Area or National Record requests it; and/or
 - the Athletics Integrity Unit requests it.

The latest World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules are available to download from: <https://www.worldathletics.org/about-iaaf/documents/book-of-rules> (see Book D - Chapter 3.1)

3.5. Television / Live Streaming

- a. If the Organiser plans to produce live Television footage and/or live stream of the Meeting, the production shall comply with the Television Production and Graphic Branding Guidelines.
- b. Subject to 3.5.a. the Organiser must provide World Athletics, in a format notified by World Athletics, a copy of the footage of the Meeting for the purposes of transmission on World Athletics' social media channels.

3.6. Logistics

The Meeting headquarters hotel and transport facilities to be provided by the Organiser must comply with the following minimum requirements:

- Hotel rating Minimum 3 star (***)
- Full board accommodation for invited athletes
- Athletes' transportation to/from hotel, stadium, airport, train station

4. **Entry/Start Lists, Results and World Ranking points**

4.1. Entry lists

Entry Lists should be sent to World Athletics (email: worldathleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org) two days before the Meeting and should include:

- Event (Men, Women, U20 Men and U20 Women)
- Athlete's Surname and Name
- Athlete's Country Code
- Athlete's Date / Year of Birth
- Athletes' IF Code (available on the Athletes' Profile Page <https://www.worldathletics.org/athletes>).

4.2. Start Lists

Should be sent the evening before the Meeting, following the Technical Meeting (if applicable) and should include bib number and Athlete's Surname and Name

4.3. Results

Results should ideally be posted live on the event website and sent to World Athletics (email: worldathleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org), no later than 60 minutes after the end of each race. The Organiser must also ensure that World Athletics is informed of any correction to the Results.

4.4. World Ranking Points

World Rankings points will be awarded for participation in the senior races that comply with the requirements set out in these Regulations and the Cross-Country Tour application form according to GL Category. The top 80 finishers will receive direct performance scores (see <https://www.worldathletics.org/world-ranking-rules/cross-country>).

5. **World Cross-Country Tour Overall Prize Money**

- 5.1. World Athletics will offer Overall Prize Money (\$37,500 for the men and for the women) to the best 6 men and 6 women as per the following structure:

1 st	\$10 000
2 nd	\$8 000
3 rd	\$6 000
4 th	\$5 000
5 th	\$4 500
6 th	\$4 000

- 5.2. For the purpose of awarding the overall prize money, the athletes will be ranked according to their best 3 performance scores achieved in the period 1 September 2021 – 31 March 2022, of which at least 2 must come from World Cross Country Tour meetings (see Appendix 1 for performance score tables).
- 5.3. In case of a tie for the final standings, this shall be resolved in favour of the athlete with the highest single performance score. In case of further tie(s), the next highest performance score(s) will count.
- 5.4. Any athlete who is found to have infringed the Rules and Regulations will not receive any award, or, if already paid, repay the award by the date notified by the Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee). If the award is not repaid by the notified date then the athlete will be suspended until such time as repayment occurs unless in the sole opinion of the Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee) there are exceptional circumstances that deserves a waiver or partial waiver of the requirement to repay the award. In this case, the prize money shall be paid to the next ranked athlete.

PART II - SILVER LEVEL TOUR STATUS REQUIREMENTS

1. Applications

1.1. Formal Applications for a World Athletics Cross-Country Tour - Silver Level shall be submitted as follows:

1.1.1. On the Application Form.

1.1.2. Signed by both the Organiser and the host National Federation and submitted to the relevant Area, with a copy to World Athletics.

1.1.3. By the deadline set by the Area.

2. Evaluation and Reporting

2.1. All World Athletics Cross-Country Tour - Silver level meetings will be nominated through the Areas only, and will undergo an annual evaluation, based on all aspects of their organisation including:

- Level of the Athletes competing.
- Athlete Budget, Prize Money and overall event budget.
- Services provided to the Athletes.
- Value added and prestige to the world cross country ecosystem and brand.
- Number of international participants.
- Quality of the course.
- Broadcast/live streaming coverage.
- Geographical spread on the Tour on each continental area.
- Tradition.
- Respect of these Regulations.
- Respect of all other Rules and Regulations and Graphic Branding Guidelines.
- Respect of the financial commitments towards the Athletes.
- Conduct of anti-doping measures.
- Technical conduct of the competition.

2.2. The status can be reviewed according to procedures agreed by the Area and World Athletics.

2.3. A Technical Delegate (TD), will be appointed by the Area Association for each Silver level World Athletics Cross-Country Tour Meeting. Provided they are suitably qualified, the TD can be from any Country or Territory including the Country or Territory where the Meeting is located.

2.3.1. The role of the TD is to ensure the Meeting is run in accordance with World Athletics Rules and Regulations including these Regulations and will be ready to give assistance to the Organiser and the Organiser shall guarantee full cooperation to the TD.

2.3.2. Costs of travel and accommodation for the TD to be borne by the Meeting. The TD will be appointed with low cost of travel in mind.

2.3.3. Following each Meeting the designated TD will be required to complete a detailed Report Form concerning the staging of the Meeting to be returned to the Area, with a copy to World Athletics, no later than 10 days after the Meeting.

2.3.4. A copy of the TD's Report will also be given to the Organiser.

3. **Minimum Requirements for Application**

3.1. Minimum standards of organisation

The observation and respect of the applicable Rules and Regulations shall always be one of the minimum requirements. Should a Meeting not satisfy the minimum requirements, the Area Association and World Athletics retain the right not to deliver a Permit, to downgrade a Meeting and / or take further action under its Rules and Regulations.

3.2. Races

Organisers shall be required to stage at least a Senior Men's and a Senior Women's race.

U20, Schools & Masters races are optional but the total number of participants should exceed 700.

3.3. Athlete Budget at the World Athletics Cross-Country Tour Silver Meetings

- a. A minimum total athlete budget for travel, accommodation and prize money should be **\$8,000 USD**.
- b. Prize Money shall be paid within 60 days of receipt of the doping control clearance from the Athletics Integrity Unit and of the complete invoices, which must comply with the communicated legal, fiscal and procedural requirements of the Organiser.
- c. Payment of travel reimbursements will be made at the World Athletics Cross-Country Tour Meeting or within 2 weeks after the Meeting, provided the necessary paperwork has been given to the Organiser.
- d. Negotiations for Athletes to compete must be conducted only with authorised Athletes Representatives or with the Athlete directly.

3.4. Medical and Anti-Doping

- a. The Organiser shall provide:
 - Adequate Medical and Emergency Services on site, including emergency assistance and ambulance service, and minor stitching.
 - Physiotherapy facilities at the stadium and at the Athletes' hotel.
- b. The Organiser shall organise and cover the costs of doping controls and analyses as follows:
 - A minimum of four (4) doping control tests must be conducted, of which two (2) must be EPO tests.
 - Samples shall be collected in strict accordance with World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules (and appendices) using qualified doping control personnel.
 - Samples shall be shipped to and analysed by a WADA-accredited laboratory.
 - Additional tests may also be conducted where:
 - World Athletics decides to conduct pre-competition blood testing at its own expense. The Organiser shall assist the Athletics Integrity Unit should pre-competition blood tests take place at the Organiser's event (chaperones, hotel room for sample collection etc.); and/or
 - an Athlete breaks or equals a World Record (if more than one Athlete breaks or equals the record in the same event, then all Athletes concerned must be tested); and/or

- any Athlete who has broken an Area or National Record requests it; and/or
- the Athletics Integrity Unit requests it.

The latest World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules are available to download from:
<https://www.worldathletics.org/about-iaaf/documents/book-of-rules>

See Book D – Chapter 3.1)

3.5. Live Streaming

Live streaming of a reasonable quality is expected.

3.6. Logistics

The Meeting headquarters hotel and transport facilities to be provided by the Organiser must comply with the following minimum requirements:

- Hotel rating Minimum 3 star (***)
- Athletes' transportation to/from hotel, stadium, airport, train station

4. **Entry/Start Lists, Results and World Ranking points**

4.1. Entry lists

Entry Lists should be sent to the respective Area Association and to World Athletics (email: worldathleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org) two days before the Meeting and should include:

- Event (Men, Women, U20 Men and U20 Women)
- Athlete's Surname and Name
- Athlete's Country Code
- Athlete's Date / Year of Birth
- Athletes' IF Code (available on the Athletes' Profile Page <https://www.worldathletics.org/athletes>).

4.2. Start Lists

Should be sent the evening before the Meeting, following the Technical Meeting (if applicable) and should include:

- Bib number
- Athlete's Surname and Name

4.3. Results

Results should ideally be posted live on the event website and sent to World Athletics (email: worldathleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org), and to the Area Association, no later than 60 minutes after the end of each race. The Organiser must also ensure that the Area Association and World Athletics are informed of any correction to the Results.

4.4. World Ranking Points

World Rankings points will be awarded for participation in the senior races that comply with the requirements set out in these Regulations and Cross-Country Tour application form, according to A Category. The top 80 finishers will receive direct performance scores (see <https://www.worldathletics.org/world-ranking-rules/cross-country>).

5. World Cross Country Tour Overall Prize Money

- 5.1. World Athletics will offer Overall Prize Money (\$37,500 for the men and for the women) to the best 6 men and 6 women as per the following structure:

1 st	\$10 000
2 nd	\$8 000
3 rd	\$6 000
4 th	\$5 000
5 th	\$4 500
6 th	\$4 000

- 5.2. For the purpose of awarding the overall prize money, the athletes will be ranked according to their best 3 performance scores achieved in the period 1 September 2021 – 31 March 2022, of which at least 2 must come from World Cross Country Tour meetings (see Appendix 1 for performance score tables).
- 5.3. In case of a tie for the final standings, this shall be resolved in favour of the athlete with the highest single performance score. In case of further tie(s), the next highest performance score(s) will count.
- 5.4. Any athlete who is found to have infringed the Rules and Regulations will not receive any award, or, if already paid, repay the award by the date notified by the Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee). If the award is not repaid by the notified date then the athlete will be suspended until such time as repayment occurs unless in the sole opinion of the Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee) there are exceptional circumstances that deserves a waiver or partial waiver of the requirement to repay the award. In this case, the prize money shall be paid to the next ranked athlete.

PART III - BRONZE LEVEL TOUR STATUS REQUIREMENTS

1. Applications

1.1. Formal Applications for a World Athletics Cross-Country Tour Permit - Bronze Level shall be submitted as follows:

1.1.1. On the Application Form.

1.1.2. Signed by both the Organiser and the host National Federation and submitted to the relevant Area, with a copy to World Athletics.

1.1.3. By the deadline set by the Area.

2. Evaluation and Reporting

2.1. All World Athletics Cross-Country Tour - Bronze level meetings will be nominated through the Areas only, and will undergo an annual evaluation, based on all aspects of their organisation including:

- Level of the Athletes competing.
- Services provided to the Athletes.
- Number of participants.
- Quality of the course.
- Tradition.
- Respect of these Regulations.
- Conduct of anti-doping measures.
- Technical conduct of the competition.

2.2. The status can be reviewed according to procedures agreed by the Area and World Athletics.

3. Minimum Requirements for Application

3.1. Minimum standards of organisation

The observation and respect of the applicable Rules and Regulations shall always be one of the minimum requirements. Should a Meeting not satisfy the minimum requirements, the Area / World Athletics retains the right not to deliver a Permit, to downgrade a Meeting and / or take further action under its Rules and Regulations.

3.2. Races

Organisers shall be required to stage at least a Senior Men's and a Senior Women's race.

U20, Schools & Masters races are optional but the total number of participants should exceed 500.

3.3. Athlete Participation

For each Senior Race, Organisers are encouraged to secure the participation of athletes from at least **two different countries (other than the host country)**.

Negotiations for Athletes to compete must be conducted only with authorised Athletes Representatives or with the Athlete directly.

3.4. Medical and Anti-Doping

- a. The Organiser shall provide:
 - Adequate Medical and Emergency Services on site, including emergency assistance and ambulance service, and minor stitching.
 - Physiotherapy facilities at the stadium and at the Athletes' hotel.
- b. The Organiser shall organise and cover the costs of doping controls and analyses as follows:
 - A minimum of three (3) doping control tests must be conducted, of which two (2) must be EPO tests.
 - Samples shall be collected in strict accordance with World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules (and appendices) using qualified doping control personnel.
 - Samples shall be shipped to and analysed by a WADA-accredited laboratory.
 - Additional tests may also be conducted where:
 - World Athletics decides to conduct pre-competition blood testing at its own expense. The Organiser shall assist the Athletics Integrity Unit should pre-competition blood tests take place at the Organiser's event (chaperones, hotel room for sample collection etc.); and/or
 - an Athlete breaks or equals a World Record (if more than one Athlete breaks or equals the record in the same event, then all Athletes concerned must be tested); and/or
 - any Athlete who has broken an Area or National Record requests it; and/or
 - the Athletics Integrity Unit requests it.

The latest World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules are available to download from <https://www.worldathletics.org/about-iaaf/documents/book-of-rules> (See Book D – Chapter 3.1).

3.5. Live Streaming

Live streaming is expected.

3.6. Logistics

The Meeting headquarters hotel and transport facilities to be provided by the Organiser must comply with the following minimum requirements:

- Hotel rating Minimum 3 star (***)
- Athletes' transportation to/from hotel, stadium, airport, train station

4. **Entry/Start Lists, Results and World Ranking points**

4.1. Entry/Start lists

Entry/Start Lists should be sent to the respective Area Association and to World Athletics (email: worldathleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org) two days before the Meeting and should include:

- Event (Men, Women, U20 Men and U20 Women)
- Athlete's Surname and Name
- Athlete's Country Code
- Athlete's Date / Year of Birth
- Athletes' IF Code (available on the Athletes' Profile Page <https://www.worldathletics.org/athletes>).

4.2. Results

Results should ideally be posted live on the event website and sent to World Athletics (email: worldathleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org), and to the Area Association, no later than 60 minutes after the end of each race. The Organiser must also ensure that the Area Association and World Athletics are informed of any correction to the Results.

4.3. World Ranking Points

World Rankings points will be awarded for participation in the senior races that comply with the requirements set out in these Regulations and the Cross-Country Tour application form, according to B Category. The top 40 finishers will receive direct performance scores (see <https://www.worldathletics.org/world-ranking-rules/cross-country>).

5. **World Cross Country Tour Overall Prize Money**

- 5.1 World Athletics will offer Overall Prize Money (\$37,500 for the men and for the women) to the best 6 men and 6 women as per the following structure:

1 st	\$10 000
2 nd	\$8 000
3 rd	\$6 000
4 th	\$5 000
5 th	\$4 500
6 th	\$4 000

- 5.2 For the purpose of awarding the overall prize money, the athletes will be ranked according to their best 3 performance scores achieved in the period 1 September 2021 – 31 March 2022, of which at least 2 must come from World Cross Country Tour meetings (see Appendix 1 for performance score tables).
- 5.3 In case of a tie for the final standings, this shall be resolved in favour of the athlete with the highest single performance score. In case of further tie(s), the next highest performance score(s) will count.
- 5.4 Any athlete who is found to have infringed the Rules and Regulations will not receive any award, or, if already paid, repay the award by the date notified by the Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee). If the award is not repaid by the notified date then the athlete will be suspended until such time as repayment occurs unless in the sole opinion of the Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee) there are exceptional circumstances that deserves a waiver or partial waiver of the requirement to repay the award.. In this case, the prize money shall be paid to the next ranked athlete.

1. Sustainability (Gold, Silver and Bronze)- All Cross Country Tours

- 1.1. To ensure that all affiliated athletics competitions are aligned with the principles of sustainability articulated in the World Athletics Sustainability Strategy 2020-2030 World Athletics has developed an ‘Athletics for a Better World Sustainable Event Standard’ (‘the Sustainable Event Standard’). The World Athletics Sustainability Strategy is divided into six pillars: (1) leadership in sustainability; (2) sustainable production and consumption; (3) climate change and carbon; (4) local environment and air quality; (5) global equality; and (6) diversity, accessibility and wellbeing.
- 1.2. The Sustainable Event Standard is to assist event organiser address sustainability as they design, plan and execute their events. Each of the 6 pillars above is broken down into 4 topics. Topics include specific sustainability objectives, each with performance requirement and a dedicated scoring methodology. A document with best-practice guidance to the Sustainable Event Standard can be downloaded (in English, French, Spanish) at <https://worldathletics.org/athletics-better-world/sustainability> , under the dedicated tab.

Athletics for a Better World Sustainable Event Standard: overview of Macro-areas and topics		
Macro-areas	Topic	Points available
Leadership (Tot. 26 points available)	Sustainability plan	6
	Collaboration	9
	Communication plan	5
	Operational delivery	6
Sustainable Production and consumption (Tot. 18 points available)	Policy/ plan	4
	Waste management	5
	Food and catering	3
	Minimise consumption	6
Climate change and carbon (Tot. 21 points available)	Carbon Plan	5
	Energy and Resources (scope 1 and 2)	7
	Travel and accommodation (scope 3)	6
	Fan travel and engagement	3
Local Environment and air quality (Tot. 15 points available)	Air quality protection	6
	Air quality legacy	2
	Environmental protection	5
	Environmental Legacy	2
Global Equality (Tot. 22 points available)	Community impact	3
	Equal opportunities	8
	Global/regional representation	5
	Facility improvement legacy	6
Diversity, accessibility and wellbeing (Tot. 18 points available)	Diversity	7
	Event accessibility	3
	Health and safety	1
	Wellbeing	7
TOTAL		120

- 1.3. From 2024 all Cross Country Tour Meetings are required to score a minimum of points to achieve as follows:
 - 1.3.1. Athletics for a Better World Platinum Event: 108 points (90%)
 - 1.3.2. Athletics for a Better World Gold Event: 96 points (80%)
 - 1.3.3. Athletics for a Better World Bronze Event: 72 points (60%)
 - 1.3.4. Athletics for a Better World Recognized Event: Event has illustrated a clear commitment to principles of sustainable event delivery. (Minimum points TBD)